

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5176
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2001
KISAN CREDIT CARD HOLDERS
MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT;RAM SHAKAL

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the bank-wise and State-wise details of number of Kisan Credit card holders in the country as on 31-3-2001;
- (b) the bank-wise and State-wise details of the amount of loan taken by the farmers through this card as on 31-3-2001;
- (c) the target fixed for 2001-2002 in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government are considering to waive-off the loan of farmers in view of the loss of crop due to natural calamity; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) :

- (a) The bank-wise and State-wise details of the number of Kisan Credit Card holders in the country as available with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is given in enclosed Statement.
- (b) The information is being collected and to the extent available, will be laid on the Table of the House.
- (c) No targets have been fixed for banks for issue of Kisan Credit Cards for the year 2001-2002. However, as announced in the Budget Speech for the year 2001-2002, banks have been advised to accelerate the programme and cover all eligible farmers within the next three years.
- (d) and (e) Government and Reserve Bank of India (RBI) are not in favour of any loan waiver scheme as it would adversely affect the recovery process and financial discipline and could lead to similar demands from other sectors. However, as per the standing instructions issued by RBI banks have been advised to convert the short term agricultural loans of affected farmers due to natural calamities into medium term loans and also rephase/ reschedule the outstanding instalments of medium term loans.